



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

36 April 28, 2015


PATRICK OZAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

April 28, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CONTRIBUTION TO THE HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

This action is to authorize the County of Los Angeles' contribution of \$165,000 to the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority, of which the County is a member, to fund the cost of the professional services contract to be administered by the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority to study passenger rail connectivity for the proposed High Desert Corridor transportation project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that this activity is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Approve and instruct the Director of Public Works or her designee to transfer \$165,000 to the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority, of which the County is a member.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to authorize the transfer of \$165,000 to the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (HDCJPA) to fund the cost of the professional services contract to be administered by HDCJPA to study the interoperability and connectivity of the passenger rail component of the proposed High Desert Corridor (HDC) transportation project with the proposed California High-Speed Rail and other potential rail feeder/connector services. This funding is needed by the HDCJPA to continue its work to advance the development of the HDC transportation project.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1). The development of the HDC transportation project will provide improved access and connectivity to regional transportation facilities and enhance traffic flow for County residents in the Antelope Valley, thereby improving their quality of life.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Funding for the County of Los Angeles' contribution of \$165,000 to the HDCJPA is available from the Fifth Supervisorial District discretionary funds that are included in the Public Works' General Fund Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The HDC was officially designated in Section 1304 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users as a High Priority Corridor on the National Highway System from Los Angeles to Las Vegas via Palmdale and Victorville.

On November 8, 2006, the Board of Supervisors approved Agreement 75922, a joint powers agreement with the County of San Bernardino, to create a nonfunded HDCJPA to pursue funding and provide for the planning, design, construction, financing, operation, and maintenance of the new freeway/expressway known as the HDC from the County of Los Angeles in the vicinity of the Cities of Palmdale and Lancaster to the County of San Bernardino in the vicinity of the Cities of Victorville, Apple Valley, and Adelanto. The formation of the HDCJPA was recommended without financial obligations from either the County of San Bernardino or the County of Los Angeles.

In Fiscal Years 2008-09 and 2009-10, the Board approved contributions of \$250,000 in each of those years to the HDCJPA to fund general operating costs.

The County of Los Angeles' \$165,000 contribution will be used by the HDCJPA to fund the cost of the professional services contract to be administered by the HDCJPA to study the interoperability and connectivity of the passenger rail component of the HDC transportation project with the proposed California High-Speed Rail and other potential rail feeder/connector services.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

This action is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15262 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. This exemption provides for feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions that have not been approved, adopted, or funded.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended action will improve the quality of life for the residents of the Antelope Valley by providing funds for contract work that is ultimately anticipated to enhance traffic flow.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Programs Development Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Farber".

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:JTW:dg

c: Chief Executive Office (Rochelle Goff)
County Counsel
Executive Office